

## **Claims**

What is claimed is:

1. A method for managing energy consumption of a device, the method comprising the steps of:

5           ascertaining the proximity of an user to the device; and

          adjusting the energy consumption of the device, whereby the energy consumption is adjusted based upon the proximity of the user to the device.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein energy is provided to the device by batteries.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein an RFID tag is used in connection with  
10       ascertaining the proximity of the authorized user to the device.

4. The method of Claim 3, wherein the RFID tag is an active RFID tag.

5. The method of Claim 3, wherein the energy consumption of the device is decreased when the user is not proximate to the device.

6. The method of Claim 3, wherein the proximity of the user to the device at  
15       which the energy consumption of the device is adjusted may be varied.

7. A system for managing energy consumption of a device, comprising:
- an arrangement for ascertaining the proximity of an user to the device; and
- an arrangement for adjusting the energy consumption of the device, whereby the energy consumption is adjusted based upon the proximity of the user to the device.
- 5        8. The system of Claim 7, wherein energy is provided to the device by batteries.
9. The system of Claim 7, wherein an RFID tag is used in connection with ascertaining the proximity of the authorized user to the device.
10. The system of Claim 9, wherein the RFID tag is an active RFID tag.
11. The system of Claim 9, wherein the energy consumption of the device is
- 10    decreased when the user is not proximate to the device.
12. The system of Claim 9, wherein the proximity of the user to the device at which the energy consumption of the device is adjusted may be varied.
13. A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for managing
- 15    energy consumption of a device, said method comprising the steps of:

ascertaining the proximity of an user to the device; and

adjusting the energy consumption of the device, whereby the energy consumption is adjusted based upon the proximity of the user to the device.